

## State Agricultural Summaries

*These summaries, issued weekly through the summer growing season, provide brief descriptions of crop and weather conditions important on a national scale. More detailed data are available in Weather and Crop Bulletins published each Monday by NASS State Statistical Offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service. The crop weather reports are also available on the Internet through the NASS Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> or from JAWF at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf>.*

**ALABAMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 20% very short, 46% short, 34% adequate, 0% surplus. Corn 98% mature, 100% 2004, 97% avg.; 65% harvested, 61% 2004, 67% avg.; condition 0% very poor, 5% poor, 19% fair, 63% good, 13% excellent. Soybeans 55% dropping leaves, 59% 2004, 45% avg.; 13% harvested, 14% 2004, 5% avg.; condition 0% very poor, 10% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. Pasture feeds 2% very poor, 9% poor, 25% fair, 58% good, 6% excellent. Livestock condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 11% fair, 63% good, 23% excellent. Dry conditions continued for most areas of the state until near the end of the week. In Central State, rainfall measured from 0.1 to over 1.0 inch. Temperatures were moderate earlier in the week, causing cotton bolls to open more quickly. A few cotton fields have even been defoliated. By week's end, temperatures began to move back up into the 90's.

**ALASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Topsoil 95% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 25% short, 75% adequate. Barley 95% harvested. 2004 95% of the crop was harvested at this time, the 65% 5- year average. Oats 90% harvested. 2004 95% of the crop was harvested at this time, the 45% 5 year average. Potatoes 40% harvested. Hay 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting complete 65%, as rain continued to hamper harvest. Winter supplies of hay 5% short, 90% adequate, 5% surplus. Activities Included: Equipment repair, harvesting barley, oats, hay, potatoes and vegetables.

**ARIZONA:** Temperatures for the State were below normal for the week ending September 17. No precipitation was reported at any of the 17 reporting stations. Cotton bolls have opened on seventy-five percent of the acreage, fourteen percentage points behind last year and eighteen percentage points behind the five-year average. Cotton condition is mostly good. Alfalfa condition remains mostly good. Range and pasture conditions are mostly fair.

**ARKANSAS:** Days suitable for field work 6. Soil: 27% very short, 37% short, 34% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 99% matured, 95% previous week, 100% previous year, 100% 5- yr avg.; 80% harvested, 64% previous week, 91% previous year, 88% 5- yr average. Soybeans 68% yellowing, 56% previous week, 58% previous year, 40% 5- yr avg.; 52% shedding, 41% previous week, 43% previous year, 36% 5- yr avg.; 35% matured, 27% previous week, 34% previous year, 17% 5- yr avg.; 26% harvested, 20% previous week, 25% previous year, 12% 5- yr average. Sorghum 95% mature, 87% previous week, 94% previous year, 95% 5- yr avg.; 76% harvested, 52% previous week, 78% previous year, 78% 5- yr average. Cotton 88% bolls open, 84% previous week, 68% previous year, 77% 5- yr avg.; 5% harvested, 1% previous week, 2% previous year, 5% 5- yr average. Rice 85% ripe, 75% previous week, n/a % previous year, 84% 3- yr avg.; 41% harvested, 23% previous week, 50% previous year, 48% 5- yr avg.; n/a-Not asked in 2004. \*Three year average for 2000, 2002, and 2005. Corn 7% very poor, 13% poor, 32% fair, 37% good, 11% excellent. Soybeans 10% very poor, 21% poor, 35% fair, 29% good, 5% excellent. Sorghum 5% very poor, 20% poor, 39% fair, 31% good, 5% excellent. Cotton 1% very poor, 4% poor, 22% fair, 52% good, 21% excellent. Rice 1% very poor, 7% poor, 29% fair, 44% good, 19% excellent. Hay other 36% very poor, 31% poor, 27% fair, 6% good, 0% excellent. Hay alfalfa 24% very poor, 44% poor, 22% fair, 10% good, 0% excellent. Pasture, range 38% very poor, 35% poor, 22% fair, 5% good, 0% excellent. Dry, hot conditions continued in most areas. Some rains received in eastern counties. Rice, soybean harvest underway in most areas of state. Corn, sorghum harvest continued. Cotton boll openers applied, defoliation began. Pesticides were applied to control worms in soybeans, bollworm larvae in cotton. Apple harvest continued. Some areas preparing for winter wheat planting. LIVESTOCK: Livestock were reported to be in fair condition, though heat stress was noticed in some herds. Culling cows and calves, and feeding hay reported due to dry conditions. Some cattle being sold due to shortage of pastures, hay. Hay supplies and pastures were short in drier areas. Treated forages for army worms. Planted some fall pastures.

**CALIFORNIA:** Cotton progressed well last week with bolls opening in most fields. The final irrigation for cotton was almost complete,

preparations for defoliation had begun. Whitefly was showing up in some cotton fields. Rice harvest continued moving at a slow pace. Sugar beet harvest almost complete, and the planting of the new fall crop continued. The sixth cutting of alfalfa hay was almost complete in the San Joaquin Valley, and fields were prepared for new plantings. Harvest of field corn for silage continued, and the harvested fields were being disced under and prepared for fall plantings. Desiccation of seed alfalfa fields was finished and harvest activities were winding down. Milo was beginning to head out. Ground preparation continued for dryland wheat and oat hay. Raisin grape harvest continued in the San Joaquin Valley. Reports indicated that approximately half of the crop was picked, laid on trays to dry. An estimated 10% of the crop had been rolled, 9% had already been picked up, placed into bins. Some growers were turning to mechanical harvesting due to a shortage of labor. Dried on the vine raisins continued to dry in the vineyards. Table grapes continued to be picked. Wine, juice grape harvest continued with Carignane, French Colombard, Barbera, Merlot, Chenin Blanc, Grenache, Palomino varieties being harvested for wine making. The stone fruit season was nearing completion in many areas. Among the varieties harvested were Angelino, October Gem plums, September Sun, Snow Gem peaches, Red Jim, Arctic Pride nectarines. A few stone fruit orchards were removed following harvest and stacked for disposal. Pineapple quince, Early Foothill and Early Wonderful pomegranates were harvested. Acid tests in pomegranate juice were excellent but coloring of juice and rind was low. Color should increase with cooler nighttime temperatures. Harvest of Asian Pears was slowing down, with low yields, good quality reported in northern counties. Kiwifruit harvest began in Yuba County. The crop appeared to be very large and was progressing and sizing well. Strawberry plants in the San Joaquin Valley were showing good growth. Irrigation of citrus groves continued, fruit was starting to size up. Picking, packing of Valencia oranges continued to wind down. Quality continued to deteriorate, and heavy grading was required to meet buyer's demands. Growers reported problems getting fruit picked due to lack of labor. This season's Navel orange crop continued to size well. Many olive orchards were treated for olive fruit fly. Almond harvest continued but was nearing completion in some areas. Harvesting of walnuts began in many locations. Many nuts that had fallen off early were damaged, unmarketable. Walnut orchards were sprayed for codling moth. Pistachio harvest began in some locations. As a result of the cooler weather, growers also saw slower production of various summer vegetables including beans, bitter melons, gourds, okra, peppers and some Oriental vegetables. Growers in the central coast noticed some quality problems in head lettuce. Planting of cauliflower, broccoli, spinach was near completion, progressed normally. Eggplant harvest was in its peak season. Asparagus, bell peppers, cantaloup, cucumbers, dry beans, sweet corn, tomatoes continued to be harvested. Supplemental feeding of cattle on dry foothill pastures continued. Fire danger remained high, but cooler weather was mitigating the situation in some areas. A few beef cows were moving from higher elevation pastures to foothill pastures where dry grass is abundant. Fall calving of beef cows continued. Yearling feeder cattle were shipping from summer pastures to market. Cooler weather reduced stress on milk cows, resulting in a return to normal milk production. In the central area, sheep grazed in harvested forage fields. Bees were being removed from late planted melon fields.

**COLORADO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 12% very short, 36% short, 52% adequate. Subsoil 19% very short, 46% short, 34% adequate, 1% surplus. State continued to see little change in the weather with scattered showers, average temperatures again reported for most of the state. However, the San Luis Valley has begun experiencing some light frost in the early mornings. Total rain fall was at or slightly below the average for the week. Spring wheat 91% harvested, 93% 2004, 95% avg. Spring barley 95% harvested, 99% 2004, 100% avg. Corn silage 55% harvested, 37% 2004, 56% avg. Sunflower 1% harvested, 6% 2004, 5% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 9% poor, 30% fair, 46% good, 14% excellent. Dry bean 61% cut, 61% 2004, 65% avg.; 32% harvested, 25% 2004, 39% avg.; condition 1% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 59% good, 12% excellent. Dry onions 68% harvested, 68% 2004, 66% avg. Summer potatoes 67% harvested, 68% 2004, 73% avg. Fall potatoes 28%

harvested, 25% 2004, 26% avg.; condition 10% poor, 34% fair, 42% good, 14% excellent. Alfalfa hay 3rd cutting 72%, 63% 2004, 70% avg.; 4th cutting 14%, 9% 2004, 14% avg.; condition 4% very poor, 9% poor, 23% fair, 47% good, 17% excellent. Sugarbeets 1% very poor, 6% poor, 23% fair, 58% good, 12% excellent.

**DELAWARE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 49% very short, 22% short, 27% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 26% very short, 46% short, 28% adequate. Field corn condition 2% poor, 17% fair, 52% good, 29% excellent; 100% dent, 99% 2004, 93% avg.; 84% mature, 92% 2004, 68% avg.; 33% harvested for grain, 43% 2004, 25% avg.; 97% harvested for silage, 78% 2004, 67% avg. Soybeans condition 12% very poor, 23% poor, 25% fair, 34% good, 6% excellent; 48% turning color, 48% 2004, 30% avg.; 32% dropping leaves, 17% 2004, 11% avg. Pasture feeds 7% very poor, 17% poor, 57% fair, 19% good. Other hay 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting 93%, 96% 2004, 95% avg.; 4<sup>th</sup> cutting 4%, 19% 2004, 29% avg. Alfalfa hay 4<sup>th</sup> cutting 52%, 50% 2004, 50% avg. Apple condition 2% poor, 9% fair, 88% good and 1% excellent; 45% harvested, 33% 2004, 46% avg. Cucumbers 94% harvested, 94% 2004, 95% avg. Lima beans 82% (Processed) harvested, 90% 2004, 46% avg. Potatoes 94% harvested, 100% 2004, 99% avg. Hay supplies 30% short, 63% adequate, 7% surplus. Sunshine with mild air temperatures allowed corn harvest for both grain, silage to move forward during the week ending September 18, 2005. Additional precipitation is needed to halt declining crop conditions. Over 33% of the corn for grain has been harvested, 97% of silage has been harvested. Soybeans fields are turning color quickly and some are beginning to drop their leaves. Soybean harvest should begin in three weeks.

**FLORIDA:** Topsoil 8% very short, 32% short, 54% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 26% short, 55% adequate, 16% surplus. Temperature average: 0 to 3 deg. above normal, major stations. Highs: 90s. Lows: 60s, 70s. Rainfall: under 0.10 in. Belle Glade, Bronson, Carabelle, Macclenny, Ft. Lauderdale to over 2.00 in. Dade County. Peanut condition 10% poor, 40% fair, 35% good, 15% excellent; 10% dug, 24% 2004, 20% 5-yr avg. Dry weather permitted fieldwork to advance; most on schedule. Peanut digging increasing slowly; most activity expected over next two weeks. Growers defoliating oldest cotton acreage; picking expected to begin by early October. Some earlier corn harvests stopped due to low supply of diesel fuel. Dry weather speeded hay baling, all areas; most on schedule. Jackson County: some producers stopped digging peanuts due to hard soils. Washington County: corn harvesting expected to be completed in 5 to 7 days; insects pressuring soybean fields. Madison County: corn picking active. Lack of rain lowered topsoil, subsoil moisture; Holmes, Washington, Suwannee, Union, Brevard counties reported spots of very short moisture; Okeechobee, Hernando, Brevard, Holmes counties reported some localities with surplus soil moisture. Most Panhandle counties, mostly short to adequate soil moisture supplies; most Peninsula counties, short to mostly adequate supplies. Okra harvesting continued, Dade County. Drier conditions, Quincy, allowed tomato crop to improve; picking to start in early October. Fall crop planting active, central, southern Peninsula localities. Hot, dry weather all citrus counties. Daily highs low to mid 90s; no rainfall recorded. Growers irrigated due to dry weather. Trees in good condition, little to no tree wilt in well-cared-for groves. Scattered fertilizing, liming, mowing, clean-up, all areas; groves prepared for picking season. Fruit maturity levels running behind normal; packinghouses, juice plants not yet opened for business. Grove access limited, some areas, due to canker eradication program. Pasture feed 15% poor, 35% fair, 45% good, 5% excellent. Cattle Condition: 5% poor, 30% fair, 60% good, 5% excellent. Pasture showing drought stress Panhandle, north, central, part of southwest. Panhandle: land preparation for winter forage planting started. Southwest: pasture condition poor to excellent; pasture poor due to drought at some locations, flooding at others; cattle condition poor to excellent, most in good condition. Statewide; cattle condition poor to excellent; most in good condition.

**GEORGIA:** Days suitable for field work 6.6. Soil 31% very short, 49% short, 19% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn 75% harvested for grain, 83% 2004, 83% avg. Soybeans 99% setting pods, 100% 2004, 99% avg. Sorghum 3% very poor, 7% poor, 42% fair, 44% good, 4% excellent; 31% harvested for grain, 35% 2004, 33% avg. Apples 9% poor, 29% fair, 53% good, 9% excellent; 22% harvested, 34% 2004, 38% avg. Hay 1% very poor, 11% poor, 45% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Peanuts 12% dug, 12% 2004, 18% avg. Pecans 6% poor, 38% fair, 48% good, 8% excellent. Rye 2% planted, 7% 2004, 6% avg. Other Small Grains 1% planted, 4% 2004, 4% avg. The dry weather experienced by most of the state continued through the final full week of summer. Current dry conditions are in stark contrast to the overall wet conditions state experienced most

of the summer. The lack of rainfall continued to be a major problem for Georgia farmers this week. Dry conditions could adversely affect the quality of cotton and peanuts. In the case of peanuts, the dry weather has increased the disease pressure. Both crops were progressing, however, with cotton defoliating and peanuts being dug regularly. Soybeans were being damaged by the dry, hot weather as the pods filled. Hay growers have mixed feelings about the dry conditions. The dry weather helps during the harvest, but slows the growth of the remaining crop. Activities Included: Corn harvest, commercial vineyard harvest, irrigation to combat dry conditions, routine care of livestock and pastures. Some farmers have already begun feeding hay to cattle. The small grains crop is running behind, as growers are waiting for rainfall to plant.

**HAWAII:** Overcast skies, moderate to heavy rainfall brought some welcomed relief to the hot, dry crop-growing areas in the state. However, the heavy rains caused flooding in the taro growing area of the island of Kauai, muddy field conditions in many windward districts of the state. Trade winds were brisk due to the high-pressure system north of the island chain. Most orchards crops remained in fair to good condition. Harvesting of bananas was at moderate levels, with increased incidence of disease outbreak because of wet conditions. Papaya orchards were in fair condition. Vegetable crops remained in fair to good condition, will continue to be active. The head cabbage crop made steady progress with light incidence of disease and insects.

**IDAHO:** Days suitable for field work 6.5. Topsoil 16% very short, 51% short, 33% adequate. Small grain harvest in the eastern areas of the state is finally nearing completion. The plum, prune harvest in the Treasure Valley is nearly complete. The apple harvest continued, is approximately half way through. Winter wheat 1% emerged, 2% 2004, 2% avg. Spring wheat 96% harvested, 97% 2004, 99% avg. Barley 91% harvested, 93% 2004, 98% avg. Field corn 27% harvested for silage, 36% 2004, 31% avg. Oats 84% harvested for grain, 89% 2004, 86% avg. Onions 24% harvested, 57% 2004, 51% avg. Potato condition 3% poor, 25% fair, 57% good, 15% excellent. Potatoes 73% vines dying/killed, 87% 2004, 82% avg.; 13% harvested, 16% 2004, 16% avg. Dry beans 32% harvested, 77% 2004, 64% avg. Alfalfa hay 3<sup>rd</sup> Cutting: harvested 87%, 79% 2004, 80% avg; 4<sup>th</sup> cutting 38% harvested, 48% 2004, 47% avg. Irrigation water supply 1% very poor, 8% poor, 44% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent. No major livestock problems were reported as cattle, sheep graze fall pastures and ranges. Livestock are reported to be in good to excellent condition. Activities Included: Fall field work, harvesting crops, irrigating, preparing potato cellars for storage, and planting winter wheat.

**ILLINOIS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 34% very short, 40% short, 26% adequate. The state experienced slightly above normal temperatures, precipitation last week. The state averaged 3 ° above normal and 1.1 inches of precipitation across Illinois. Harvest of corn, soybeans was well underway as higher temperatures have helped many crops dry down. Producers concerned about high fuel costs might hold off on harvesting to let their crops dry down naturally. Harvest started earlier than previous years due to the drought in the state. Besides the harvesting of corn, soybeans, farmers remained busy preparing machinery, grain handling equipment, picking pumpkins, apples, mowing waterways, ditches, cutting, baling hay, and finishing-up chopping corn silage.

**INDIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 9% very short, 33% short, 56% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 18% very short, 35% short, 46% adequate, 1% surplus. Corn condition 43% good to excellent compared with 79% 2004, 59% mature at this time, 62% 2004, 52% avg.; 7% harvested, 7% 2004, 7% avg. Soybean condition 52% good to excellent compared with 73% 2004, 71% shedding leaves, 75% 2004, 62% avg.; 6% harvested, 13% 2004, 5% avg. Soybeans are rapidly advancing towards maturity with several fields being harvested across the state. Pastures 9% very poor, 23% poor, 45% fair, 22% good, 1% excellent. Temperatures averaged 3° to 7° above normal. Afternoon temperatures were in the upper 80's to low 90's during most of the week. Precipitation was scattered throughout state with a range of .01 to 2.26 inches. Activities Included: Hauling old crop grain to market, baling hay, cleaning grain bins, mowing roadsides, waterways, and working on harvest equipment.

**IOWA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Topsoil 23% very short, 28% short, 47% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 27% very short, 30% short, 41% adequate, 2% surplus. High Temperatures, Limited Rainfall Aid Harvest. Another week of higher than normal temperatures, limited rainfall enabled state's farmers nearly a full week of fieldwork activities. Additionally, the

dry, hot weather helped dry down corn for grain moisture content. Corn silage harvest was wrapping up, while seed corn harvest was in full swing. Some farmers were cutting alfalfa hay for the fourth time this season. Soybean harvest has begun in most areas of the state. Field Crops Report: Corn condition improved slightly from the previous week with 3% very poor, 8% poor, 21% fair, 47% good, 21% excellent; 98% dented, remaining ahead of 2004, 5-year average. Corn mature reached 59%, which is ahead of 2004 35%, about one week ahead of last year. Corn harvested reached 3% complete which is slightly ahead of 2004, but 2% points below the normal 5% complete. The percent moisture of field corn was 30%, down from last week's rating of 35 percent. Harvest corn percent moisture was at 25%, which is 6 percentage points lower than the previous week and last year. Corn lodging rated 67% none, 24% light, 6% moderate, 3% heavy. Corn ear droppage 79% none, 18% light, 3% moderate. Corn lodging, ear droppage was heaviest in District 90 due to dry conditions. Soybean leaves turning color reached 94%, which is 4 percentage points ahead of last year, 7 percentage points ahead of normal. Soybeans dropping leaves, at 70% complete, is ahead of a normal pace at 56 percent. Soybeans harvested reached 7% complete, which is ahead of 2004, normal rated at 3 percent. Soybeans lodging rated 74% none, 20% light, 4% moderate, 2% heavy. Soybeans shattering 79% none, 18% light, 3% moderate. Soybean lodging, shattering was also heaviest in District 90. Soybean condition 2% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 50% good, 21% excellent. Alfalfa hay 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting reached 98%, which is 2 percentage points ahead of last year and the 5-year average. Hay condition was 8% very poor, 17% poor, 31% fair, 39% good, 5% excellent. Livestock, Pasture, Range Report: Pasture, range feeds 17% very poor, 27% poor, 31% fair, 23% good, 2% excellent. Livestock were generally reported to be in good condition, but some areas reported problems with flies, foot rot and pink-eye.

**KANSAS:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 3% very short, 17% short, 77% adequate, 3% surplus. Subsoil 9% very short, 29% short, 62% adequate. Winter wheat 4% emerged, 3% 2004, 3% avg. Cotton 93% setting bolls, 97% 2004, 99% avg. Alfalfa 4th cutting complete 73%, 81% 2004, 67% avg. Sunflowers 81% ray flower dry, 70% 2004, 88% avg.; 58% bracts yellow, 47% 2004, 71% avg.; 27% mature dry down, 16% 2004, 29% avg.; 4% harvested, 3% 2004, 11% avg. Sunflower condition 1% very poor, 5% poor, 37% fair, 53% good, 4% excellent. Pasture feed 6% very poor, 15% poor, 42% fair, 35% good, 2% excellent. Hay, forage supplies 2% very short, 7% short, 84% adequate, 7% surplus. Feed grain supplies 2% very short, 8% short, 84% adequate, 6% surplus. Stock water supplies 2% very short, 10% short, 88% adequate.

**KENTUCKY:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Topsoil 22% very short, 36% short, 40% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 25% very short, 36% short, 38% adequate, 1% surplus. Tobacco condition 5% very poor, 13% poor, 30% fair, 42% good, 10% excellent. Burley cut 80%, 80% 2004 and 82% avg. Dark tobacco cut 71%, 72% 2004, and 79% avg. Percent of tobacco showing houseburn 88% none, 10% light, and 2% Moderate. Reports indicate that harvested tobacco is curing nicely. Pasture feeds 10% very poor, 20% poor, 41% fair, 26% good, 3% excellent. Hay crops condition 11% very poor, 21% poor, 37% fair, 27% good, 4% excellent. Positive conditions continued to aid soybean pod fill, while farmers across the State continued to harvest tobacco and corn.

**LOUISIANA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.9. Soil 59% very short, 33% short, and 8% adequate. Corn 100% harvested, 98% last week, 100% 2004, 98% avg. Hay 2nd cutting 99%, 98% last week, 97% 2004, 96% avg. Rice 99% ripe, 98% last week, 100% 2004, 100% avg. Soybeans 93% turning color, 79% last week, 77% 2004, 80% avg. Sugarcane 15% very poor, 17% poor, 35% fair, 27% good, 6% excellent; 87% planted, 66% last week, 95% 2004, 88% avg. Sweet potatoes 5% very poor, 8% poor, 36% fair, 51% good; 26% harvested, 15% last week, 14% 2004, 27% avg. Livestock 9% very poor, 14% poor, 44% fair, 31% good, 2% excellent. Vegetable 25% very poor, 24% poor, 43% fair, 8% good.

**MARYLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 33% very short, 51% short, 16% adequate. Subsoil 22% very short, 45% short, 33% adequate. Corn condition 2% very poor, 7% poor, 19% fair, 48% good, 24% excellent; 90% dent, 95% 2004, 87% avg.; 61% mature, 68% 2004, 60% avg.; 13% harvested for grain, 17% 2004, 17% avg.; 80% harvested for silage, 70% 2004, 58% avg. Soybean condition 13% very poor, 13% poor, 24% fair, 41% good, 9% excellent; 54% turning color, 45% 2004, 37% avg.; 28% dropping leaves, 13% 2004, 15% avg. Pasture feeds 8% very poor, 20% poor, 42% fair, 30% good. Other hay 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting 73%, 78% 2004, 74% avg.; 4<sup>th</sup> cutting 8%, 14% 2004, 21% avg. Alfalfa hay 4<sup>th</sup> cutting 68%, 49% 2004, 49% avg. Apple condition 2% poor, 6% fair, 91%

good, 1% excellent; 66% harvested, 49% 2004, 37% avg. Cucumbers 95% harvested, 90% 2004, 92% avg. Lima Beans (Processed) harvested 73%, 73% 2004, 65% avg. Potatoes 96% harvested, 95% 2004, 99% avg. Hay supplies 7% very short, 13% short, 76% adequate, 4% surplus. States farmers experienced some light spotty rains, but overall conditions are still dry. Some yield losses are anticipated, but large losses are not expected. Corn silage harvest increased 16% to 80%, well ahead of 2005, the five-year average. Many soybean fields are turning color and starting to drop their leaves. Harvest is at least three to four weeks away. Apple harvest continues with 66% harvested, 17% above 2004, 29% above the five-year average.

**MICHIGAN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Subsoil 35% very short, 43% short, 22% adequate, 0% surplus. Corn silage 81% harvested, 18% 2004, 36% avg. Soybeans 97% turning, 47% 2004, 70% avg. Sugarbeets 1% harvested, 0% 2004, 0% avg. Potatoes 37% harvested, 29% 2004. All hay 10% very poor, 22% poor, 27% fair, 34% good, 7% excellent. Hay 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting 81%, 75% 2004, 75% avg.; 4<sup>th</sup> cutting hay 30%, 18% 2004, 15% avg. Dry beans 0% very poor, 10% poor, 28% fair, 48% good, 14% excellent; 100% dropping leaves, 62% 2004, 66% avg.; 48% harvested, 15% 2004, 19% avg. Apples 25% harvested, 20% 2004. Precipitation amounts ranged from 0.26 inches northeast Lower Peninsula to 0.88 inches southwest Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 4° above normal southwest Lower Peninsula to 9° above normal eastern, western Upper Peninsula. Rains this week welcomed by area farmers but did little to alleviate dry soil conditions. Corn continued to mature. High moisture corn being harvested. Soybean harvest began in early planted soybean fields, and remaining fields maturing rapidly. The third, fourth cuttings of alfalfa continued. For sugarbeets, harvest began on a limited number of fields. Harvest of dry beans continued. Reports of farmers spraying to kill plant because bean pods had turned brown but vegetative part of plant still green. A lack of sufficient rainfall continued to limit farmers from planting their wheat fields. Gala and McIntosh apple harvests neared completion. Empire, Jonagolds will be predominant apple varieties harvested this week. Peach harvest neared completion west central. Concord grape harvest will begin southwest this week. Vegetable crops throughout State continued to be harvested. Carrot harvest continued. Harvest continued for celery and onion crops. Pepper harvest wrapping up with plants still showing some virus symptoms. Potato harvest continued. Pumpkin plants looked good with harvest underway many areas. Snap bean, sweet corn harvests full swing. Squash, cucumber, zucchini harvests continued some areas. Tomatoes for processing harvest neared completion some areas, while fresh market harvest continued.

**MINNESOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.3. Topsoil 2% very short, 4% short, 81% adequate, 13% surplus. Corn 63% silage cut, 16% 2004, 60% avg. Soybeans 94% turning yellow, 72% 2004, 87% avg.; 16% mature, 3% 2004, 23% avg. Potatoes 29% harvested, 49% 2004, 37% avg. Sweet Corn 84% harvested, 75% 2004, 87% avg. Dry Beans 28% harvested, 0% 2004, 34% avg. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 9% poor, 31% fair, 47% good, 8% excellent. Dry Beans 0% very poor, 5% poor, 38% fair, 47% good, 10% excellent. Potatoes 1% very poor, 2% poor, 26% fair, 57% good, 14% excellent. Sunflowers 2% very poor, 8% poor, 43% fair, 40% good, 7% excellent. Sugarbeets 2% very poor, 6% poor, 35% fair, 44% good, 13% excellent. Corn, soybean, sugarbeet harvest began this past week. Heavy rain in northwestern, central state slowed potato harvest. Rainfall amounts of up to 6 inches were reported across the southern third of the State. The average temperature for the week was 63.9 degrees, 5.6 degrees above normal.

**MISSISSIPPI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Soil 19% very short, 26% short, 47% adequate, 8% surplus. Corn 100% dent, 100% 2004, 100% avg.; 99% mature, 100% 2004, 100% avg.; 87% harvested, 92% 2004, 87% avg. Cotton 89% open bolls, 83% 2004, 89% avg.; 8% harvested, 6% 2004, 13% avg.; 6% very poor, 14% poor, 30% fair, 37% good, 13% excellent. Rice 85% mature, 94% 2004, 92% avg.; 28% harvested, 71% 2004, 55% avg.; 4% very poor, 13% poor, 10% fair, 55% good, 18% excellent. Sorghum 96% harvested, 93% 2004, 87% avg. Soybeans 97% turning color, 98% 2004, 90% avg.; 89% shedding leaves, 90% 2004, 77% avg.; 67% harvested, 72% 2004, 49% avg. Hay (Warm Season) 97% harvested, 86% 2004, 90% avg. Sweetpotatoes 38% harvested, 16% 2004, 31% avg.; 8% poor, 48% fair, 44% good. Cattle 9% very poor, 15% poor, 35% fair, 32% good, 9% excellent. Pasture 14% very poor, 30% poor, 40% fair, 15% good, 1% excellent. State farmers continue post-hurricane clean-up, repairing fences, other structures damaged by Hurricane Katrina. Harvesting is going full-force with acres being harvested as quickly as possible. Rice harvesting is progressing at a slow rate due to the additional effort needed to harvest rice that was blown over.

Sweetpotato growers welcomed a brief shower late in the week and diggers were out in the fields all weekend. The gusty winds that blew through the state caused extensive nut loss on pecan trees.

**MISSOURI:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.4. Topsoil 13% very short, 28% short, 55% adequate, 4% surplus. Widespread rains around mid-week slowed the corn harvest but several dry days kept progress ahead of normal. Corn harvesting continues least advanced in the northwest district, at 13%, while most of the southern half of the State is over 60% complete. Soybeans are dropping leaves at the normal pace but harvesting has not yet begun, a few days behind the normal pace due to high moisture of the beans. The recent rains improved soil conditions for planting wheat and permitting normal germination. Pastures improved to 22% very poor, 30% poor, 33% fair, 14% good, 1% excellent, still below the demands of normal grazing. Stock water supplies improved 20% very short, 27% short, 52% adequate, 1% excellent, but also below the desired water levels for stock ponds in many areas. Precipitation for the week averaged 2.27 inches, ranging from 1.04 inches in the northwest district to 3.56 inches in the south-central district.

**MONTANA:** Days suitable for field work 5.9. Topsoil 25% adequate, surplus, above last week's 22%, below last year's 35%, tied with the 25% 5-yr avg. Subsoil 21% adequate and surplus, compared with 24% last week, ahead of last year's 20%, ahead of the 14% 5-year average. During the week ending September 18th, temperatures ranged from highs in the middle 70s to lows in the upper 30s with moderate precipitation. Albion had the high temperature at 85 degrees. West Yellowstone, Wisdom tied for the low temperature of 20 degrees. Sula received the most moisture last week with 1.50 inches of precipitation. Winter wheat 47% planted, 41% last year. Spring wheat 97% harvested, 83% last year. Durum wheat harvested 85%, 49% last year. Barley harvest 95%, 93% last year. Oat harvest is 96%, 88% last year. Dry bean harvest is 58%, 40% 2004, condition 4% very poor, 0% last year, 4% poor, 16% 2004, 44% fair, 48% 2004, 40% good, 34% 2004, 8% excellent, 2% last year. Alfalfa hay 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting 95%, 92% last year. Other hay 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting 93%, 81% last year. This week range, pasture feeds 7% very poor, 20% poor, 42% fair, 29% good, 2% excellent, compared with 2004 21% very poor, 26% poor, 33% fair, 16% good, 4% excellent. Range, pasture feeds continue to be ahead of the five-year average conditions of 31% very poor, 32% poor, 25% fair, 11% good, 1% excellent. Ranchers have moved 26% of cattle, 24% 2004, 27% of sheep, 33% last year off summer ranges.

**NEBRASKA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 13% very short, 42% short, 43% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 24% very short, 35% short, 41% adequate, 0% surplus. Warm temperatures continued the rapid pace of crop maturity, harvests for each of the fall crops are now underway. Activities Included: Weaning of calves along with harvesting of corn, soybeans, sorghum, dry beans, Proso millet. Temperatures ranged from 1° below normal to 5° above with most highs around ninety degrees. Isolated showers fell across small portions of the state, but the majority of the state remained dry. Precipitation since April 1 continued at or above normal for five of the eight districts. Dry beans 97% coloring, 76% 2004, 88% avg.; 70% dropping leaves, 37% 2004, 66% avg.; 28% harvested, 8% 2004, 34% avg; conditions 1% very poor, 6% poor, 26% fair, 55% good, 12% excellent. Proso millet 51% harvested, 28% 2004, 46% avg. Alfalfa conditions 8% very poor, 15% poor, 36% fair, 34% good, 7% excellent; of 4<sup>th</sup> cutting taken 58%, 27% 2004, 44% avg. Pasture, range feeds 8% very poor, 19% poor, 35% fair, 35% good, and 3% excellent.

**NEVADA:** Much of northern state experienced the first frost of the season as temperatures cooled sharply from the previous week. Weekly average temperatures were 2 to 8° below normal. Precipitation was nil in most areas with Winnemucca recorded just .01 inch. The third cutting of alfalfa hay continued, fourth cutting was underway in central valleys. Sudan grass harvest continued. Grain hay harvest was over. Laser leveling of fields, replanting of alfalfa was underway. Onion and garlic harvests continued. Mint harvest was well along, distilling was underway. Potato harvest gained momentum. Irrigation, weed control continued. Pasture, range feeds very good. Cattle were being gathered on high ranges, shipping was underway. Activities: Irrigating, haying, row crop harvests, weed spraying, gathering and shipping cattle.

**NEW ENGLAND:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.5. Topsoil 6% very short, 28% short, 65% adequate, 1% surplus. Subsoil 7% very short, 25% short, 67% adequate, 1% surplus. Pasture condition 6% very poor, 23% poor, 35% fair, 33% good, 3% excellent. Maine Potatoes 10% harvested, 15% 2004, 15% average; condition good. Rhode Island Potatoes 75%

harvested, 80% 2004, 75% average; condition fair/good. Massachusetts Potatoes 50% harvested; 55% 2004; 50% average; condition good. Maine Oats 85% harvested, 50% 2004, 70% average; condition good/excellent. Maine Barley 85% harvested, 80% 2004, 80% average; condition good. Field Corn 25% harvested, 15% 2004, 20% average; condition good/excellent. Sweet Corn 90% harvested, 90% 2004, 90% average; condition good/fair. Shade Tobacco 99% harvested, 100% 2004, 100% average; condition good. Broadleaf Tobacco 100% harvested, 99% 2004, 99% average; condition good/fair. Hay 2<sup>nd</sup> crop harvested 90%, 95% 2004, 95% average; condition good; 3<sup>rd</sup> crop harvested 60, 60% 2004, 65% average; condition good. Apples 35% harvested, 40% 2004, 40% average; size below average/average in CT, average elsewhere; condition good/fair. Peaches 95% harvested, 95% 2004, 90% average; size average/below average in Connecticut, average elsewhere; condition good/fair. Pears 45% harvested, 50% 2004, 40% average; size below average/average in CT, average elsewhere; condition fair. Cranberries: size average/below average; condition good. Highbush Blueberries 100% harvested, 100% 2004, 99% average; size average/above average; condition good/excellent. The first signs of fall came to Northern State this week, with leaves beginning to turn color, drop; however, several reporters noted that there has not yet been a major frost in the region. The week began with unseasonably warm temperatures, high humidity across the region. By Wednesday, cooler weather moved into the region, but humid conditions led to foggy mornings for the remainder of the week. Showers, thunderstorms were spread across the region slowing field work as the remnants of Ophelia interacted with a cold front from the west. Farmers welcomed the wet weather for the pasture, hay fields as it replenished the field moisture; however, many found the rain came too late to help with most crops. Connecticut crops, pastures continued to suffer from prolonged lack of moisture. Areas of Massachusetts reported field flooding and washouts. At the end of the week, the sun began to peek through the clouds again. A wide variety of vegetables were available at farm stands, which have switched gears to fall sales. Activities Included: Weeding, monitoring crops for pests, disease, spraying fungicides, pesticides, spreading manure, baling hay, chopping grass, chopping corn silage, harvesting a variety of fruits and vegetables. Producers harvested a variety of fruits, vegetables such as raspberries, blueberries, apples, peaches, pears, plums, blackberries, beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cucumbers, greens, lettuce, melons, onions, peas, peppers, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, snap beans, summer squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, zucchini and winter squash.

**NEW JERSEY:** Days suitable for field work 6.0 Topsoil 30% very short, 65% short, 5% adequate. Activities Included: Harvesting corn for silage, grain, cutting, baling hay, spraying, irrigating, picking apples, harvesting fall vegetables. Rainfall ranged from 0.02 inch to 2.82 inches. Temperatures were above normal during the week. Summer vegetables harvest continued across the state. Harvest of fall vegetables began last week. Majority of the vegetables were rated in good condition. Field corn for grain harvest began in a few fields. Corn, soybeans were rated in mostly fair condition across the state. Potato harvest continued. Peach harvest neared completion in the central district. Apple harvest continued. Apple crop condition was rated good. Pasture was rated in mostly poor to fair condition.

**NEW MEXICO:** Days suitable for field work 7. Topsoil 19% very short, 42% short, 36% adequate, 3% surplus. Drier air returned to the state to mark the "beginning of the demise" of the summer thunderstorm season. The dry air allowed the night-time temperatures to cool considerably at most locations, with minimums falling to the 20s and 30s in the mountain communities, some of the normally cooler spots in the west such as Grants, Gallup, and Quemado. Overall, temperatures ranged from a few degrees below normal in the northwest to a few degrees above normal in the southeast. Precipitation was spotty and light. Wind damage 10% light, 19% moderate, 2% severe. In Eddy county there was a report of 6 telephone poles being blown down by thunderstorm winds east of Carlsbad. Hail damage 3% light, 1% moderate. Farmers spent the week planting wheat, harvesting their crops. Alfalfa was reported as mostly fair to excellent condition. Almost all of the 4<sup>th</sup> cutting was complete, with the 5<sup>th</sup> cutting complete 81%, the 6<sup>th</sup> was complete. Cotton was in mostly fair to excellent condition with 54% of the bolls opening. Corn was in fair to excellent condition with 90% dented, 42% mature. Silage was 83% harvested, farmers are making preparations to harvest the grain crop. Sorghum was reported as mostly fair to good, with 45% coloring and 9% mature. Winter wheat 76% planted, the young plants were listed as 39% fair, 55% good and 6% excellent. Chile was in mostly fair to good condition. Green chile was 80% harvested. Pecans, lettuce, peanuts were in fair to excellent condition. Ranchers spent the week tending to their livestock, weaning calves to prepare them for the market. Cattle 1% very

poor, 5% poor, 16% fair, 69% good, 9% excellent. Sheep were 3% very poor, 8% poor, 23% fair, 63% good, and 3% excellent. Rainfall in the state has been so hit or miss that some rangelands are still in desperate need of moisture, while other areas report that their grasses are beginning to recover. Overall range, pasture declined in the state, with conditions listed as 4% very poor, 17% poor, 34% fair, 42% good, and 3% excellent.

**NEW YORK:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Soil 16% very short, 19% short, 55% adequate, 10% surplus. Pasture feeds 8% very poor, 31% poor, 37% fair, 21% good, 3% excellent. Potatoes 59% harvested compared to 76% 2004. Several producers realized yields well above average. Most producers were saying this is one of their best corn crops ever, second to last year. Corn 6% poor, 22% fair, 46% good, 26% excellent. Hay 8% poor, 29% fair, 53% good, 10% excellent. The fruit region in the eastern part of the state has reported the apple crop to look good. Yet, due to the dry summer, the apple sizes are small. In the Long Island fruit region, berries were shriveling, but no signs of rot observed.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 6.0. Soil 34% very short, 33% short, 29% adequate, 4% surplus. Activities Included: Cutting hay, harvesting apples, corn for silage, grain, and flue-cured and burley tobacco. Preparing for small grain planting, scouting for disease and pests. State's first hurricane of the year, Ophelia, brought heavy rainfall to areas along the coast. However, dry conditions still exist in much of the State causing crop stress and concerns with soil moisture levels.

**NORTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.9. Topsoil 6% very short, 32% short, 57% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 5% very short, 28% short, 62% adequate, 5% surplus. Producers made good progress harvesting dry edible beans, flaxseed and potatoes. Above normal temperatures continued to push fall harvested crop development. Durum wheat 88% harvested, 49% 2004, 80% average. Canola 94% harvested, 51% 2004, 85% average. Corn for silage 43% chopped, 32% 2004, 51% average. Dry edible beans 94% mature leaves dropping, 37% 2004, 83% avg.; 54% cut, 9% 2004, 49% avg.; 26% harvested, 0% 2004, 32% average. Flaxseed 84% harvested, 31% 2004, 70% average. Potatoes 75% vines killed, 73% 2004, 82% avg.; 28% dug, 22% 2004, 28% average. Sunflower 92% bracts turned yellow, 28% 2004, 72% avg.; 42% bracts turned brown, 5% 2004, 33% average. Emerged crop condition ratings: Dry edible beans 2% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 46% good, 12% excellent. Potatoes 1% very poor, 10% poor, 25% fair, 51% good, 13% excellent. Sugarbeets 2% very poor, 15% poor, 31% fair, 47% good, 5% excellent. Sunflowers 0% very poor, 3% poor, 17% fair, 63% good, 17% excellent. Stockwater supplies 2% very short, 13% short, 78% adequate, 7% surplus.

**OHIO:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 12% very short, 37% short, 49% adequate, 2% surplus. Alfalfa hay 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting 95%, 88% 2004, 91% avg.; 4<sup>th</sup> cutting 44%, 28% 2004, 38% avg. . Other hay 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting 76%, 63% 2004, 69% avg. Corn 96% dent, 89% 2004, 85% avg.; 34% mature, 29% 2004, 26% avg.; 1% harvested for grain, 1% 2004, 1% avg.; 72% silage harvested, 46% 2004, 50% avg.; 73% dropping leaves, 55% 2004, 57% avg. Soybeans 23% mature, 21% 2004, 19% avg.; 5% harvested, 5% 2004, 3% avg. Winter wheat 2% planted, 0% 2004, 1% avg. Cucumbers 95% harvested, 85% 2004, 91% avg. Fall, winter apples 17% harvested, 25% 2004, 26% avg. Grapes 34% harvested, 30% 2004, 35% avg. Potatoes 56% harvested, 87% 2004, 76% avg. Processing tomatoes 78% harvested, 69% 2004, 68% avg. Corn conditions 6% very poor, 15% poor, 36% fair, 36% good, 7% excellent. Hay conditions 5% very poor, 16% poor, 36% fair, 37% good, 6% excellent. Pasture feeds 12% very poor, 18% poor, 38% fair, 29% good, 3% excellent. Soybean conditions 3% very poor, 11% poor, 32% fair, 43% good, 11% excellent. The soybean harvest has begun. Reporters in the Northwest region report small beans in the pods are being harvested. Squash and pumpkin vine crops in the North Central region are rotting in the fields, most likely caused by excessive moisture coupled with high temperatures early in the season. Activities Included: Fall plowing, cutting, preparing for and harvesting corn, preparing, planting winter wheat, chopping silage, and baling and making hay.

**OKLAHOMA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 5% very short, 22% short, 68% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 10% very short, 22% short, 66% adequate, 2% surplus. Wheat 86% seedbed prepared, 81% last week, 91% 2004, 84% avg.; 4% emerged, N/A last week, N/A 2004, 7% average. Oats 64% seedbed prepared, 60% last week, 60% 2004, 65% avg.; 2% planted, 1% last week, 7% 2004, 10% average. Rye 87% seedbed prepared, 74% last week, 100% 2004, 86% avg.; 42% planted,

31% last week, 44% 2004, 34% avg.; 18% emerged, N/A last week, N/A 2004, 10% average. Corn 2% very poor, 8% poor, 20% fair, 28% good, 42% excellent; 80% mature, 65% last week, 59% 2004, 80% avg.; 47% harvested, 39% last week, 46% 2004, 54% average. Sorghum 94% headed, 91% last week, 97% 2004, 96% average. Soybeans 2% very poor, 8% poor, 20% fair, 28% good, 42% excellent; 95% setting pods, 92% last week, 95% 2004, 94% avg.; 45% mature, 38% last week, 44% 2004, 49% avg.; 19% harvested, 15% last week, 18% 2004, 26% average. Peanuts 47% mature, 34% last week, 72% 2004, 49% avg.; 2% dug, N/A last week, 2% 2004, 2% average. Alfalfa Hay 2% very poor, 6% poor, 34% fair, 52% good, 6% excellent; 96% 4<sup>th</sup> cutting, 92% last week, 98% 2004, 79% avg.; 5<sup>th</sup> cutting 56%, 50% last week, 56% 2004, 30% avg.; 6<sup>th</sup> cutting 5%, N/A last week, 3% 2004, 1% average. Other Hay 5% very poor, 11% poor, 38% fair, 39% good, 7% excellent; 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting 75%, last week, 86% 2004, 78% average. Watermelons 98% harvested, 96% last week, 100% 2004, 100% average. Livestock 35% fair, 61% good, 4% excellent; Pasture, Range 7% very poor, 14% poor, 30% fair, 43% good, 6% excellent. Livestock: Livestock conditions were mostly good. Livestock marketings were rated as average overall, however, the Panhandle rated livestock marketings as high. Death loss of cattle was mostly light to average. Livestock insect activity was mostly light. Feeder steers less than 800 pounds were \$116.87 per cwt, a \$0.34 decrease from last week. Feeder heifers less than 800 pounds were \$110.18 per cwt, a \$1.80 increase from last week.

**OREGON:** Days suitable for fieldwork 7.0. Topsoil 25% very short, 58% short, 17% adequate. Subsoil 24% very short, 55% short, 21% adequate. Winter wheat 7% planted, 4% previous week, 2% previous year, 5% avg. Range, pasture: 6% very poor, 30% poor, 43% fair, 20% good, 1% excellent. Most temperatures throughout the State were below normal. The coldest temperature recorded last week was 24° in Lorella & the highest recorded temperature was 84° in Medford, Echo, Hermiston. Generally, temperatures averaged in the 50's & 60's throughout the state with warmer temperatures in the southwest, the northern central area, in the Willamette Valley. There was very little precipitation recorded last week. Almost half of the reporting stations did not record any precipitation. There was a little moisture on the coast, in the Willamette Valley, in southwest state, but most other areas either received no precipitation or trace amounts. Dry conditions slowed winter wheat seeding progress, fall field preparations. Low soil moisture levels have allowed for very little winter wheat to be planted, especially in north central, northeast state. Many producers expressed concern regarding high fuel, fertilizer prices. Haying continues in some parts of the State. Vole populations were high in Willamette Valley grass seed fields. Some fields were being treated. Field corn harvest in Polk County was still three to four weeks away. Sweet corn & tomato harvest continued in Clackamas County. Squash, pumpkins were becoming more plentiful. Jackson County farmer's markets, roadside stands had good supplies of tomatoes, peppers, squash, cucumbers, corn. Sweet corn harvest peaked last week in Washington County. Malheur County onion harvest was about half done. Potato, bean harvest continued. Evergreen blackberry picking is nearing it's end in the northern Willamette Valley. Wild blackberries are ripe. Most other caneberries are finished, are being pruned, hung. Hazelnut growers are getting ready for harvest as nuts are starting to fall. The price has been set at a record \$1.00 per pound so growers will be looking to harvest the crop completely this year. There has been a lack of apples, prunes throughout the north, south valley this year. Winter pear harvest continued in the lower, mid Hood River Valley. Harvest was just beginning in Parkdale. Apple harvest continued. Wine grape harvest continued in southern state on early varieties. There are still some wild blackberries to be picked. Peach, pear, plum harvests are winding down. Northern Willamette Valley nurseries were gearing up for the fall shipping season. Fall bedding plants are still available. Greenhouse, nursery crops were slowing down in the southern Willamette Valley. Southern State greenhouses were still getting fall vegetable, decorative plant starts ready. Nurseries were busy getting stock ready for fall planting. There were still a lot of plants, trees, shrubs to water. Range, pasture feeds remained very dry throughout the State. Rangeland in southeastern state was reported in good condition, but the remainder of the State was average or below. Producers in many areas continued supplemental feeding. The demand for hay has increased in the past several weeks. Cattle producers, in some areas, were optimistic that precipitation will salvage fall pastures, however others began early sales of calves due to a lack of good pastures.

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Soil 43% very short, 47% short, 10% adequate, 0% surplus. Fall plowing 37% complete, 28% 2004, 27% avg. . Corn 97% dough, 100% 2004, 93% avg.; 91% dent, 86% 2004, 76% avg., 51% mature, 52% 2004, 33% avg.; 14% harvested, 19% 2004, 10% avg.; 72% silage harvested, 66% 2004, 49% avg.; condition 3% very poor, 9% poor, 32% fair, 47% good, 9% excellent.

Barley 44% planted, 20% 2004, 16% avg.; 31% emerged, 4% 2004, 5% avg. Winter wheat 11% planted, 5% 2004, 8% avg. Soybean 99% 2004, 89% avg. Potatoes 64% harvested, 50% 2004, 50% avg. Alfalfa 4<sup>th</sup> cutting complete 53%, 42% 2004, 48% avg. Timothy clover 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting complete 95%, 91% 2004, 87% avg. Peaches 96% harvested, 97% 2004, 98% avg. Apple crop condition 3% very poor, 3% poor, 7% fair, 57% good, 30% excellent; 31% harvested, 62% 2004, 43% avg. Grapes 19% harvested, 27% 2004, 17% avg. Quality of hay made 4% very poor, 3% poor, 15% fair, 39% good, 39% excellent. Pasture feeds 37% very poor, 34% poor, 19% fair, 9% good, 1% excellent. Activities Included: Plowing, haymaking, harvesting peaches, apples, planting barley and wheat, harvesting corn, cutting silage, and filling silos.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Days suitable for field work 6.3. Soil 22% very short, 41% short, 37% adequate. The highest official temperature reported was 99° at Darlington on September 17 and at Cades on September 18. The lowest official temperature reported was 53° at Caesars Head on the morning of September 12. For the week, the State average temperature was 5° above normal. The heaviest 24-hour rainfall reported was 4.22 inches at N. Myrtle Beach on September 14. The average Statewide rainfall for the period was 0.2 inches. Corn 100% matured, 99% 2004, 100% avg.; 80% harvested, 83% 2004, 82% avg. Sorghum 95% turned color, 98% 2004, 95% avg.; 68% matured, 69% 2004, 68% avg.; 35% harvested, 34% 2004, 42% avg.; 1% poor, 5% fair, 94% good. Cotton 100% setting bolls, 99% 2004, 99% avg.; 54% open bolls, 59% 2004, 50% avg.; 6% poor, 31% fair, 61% good, 2% excellent. Tobacco 99% harvested, 98% 2004, 97% avg.; 71% stalks destroyed, 58% 2004, 68% avg. Soybeans 100% bloomed, 99% 2004, 99% avg.; 96% pods set, 96% 2004, 91% avg.; 18% turning color, 19% 2004, 21% avg.; 4% leaves dropped, 6% 2004, 8% avg.; 1% mature, 1% 2004, 2% avg.; 3% very poor, 13% poor, 35% fair, 42% good, 7% excellent. Pastures 5% very poor, 19% poor, 36% fair, 40% good. Peaches 99% harvested, 99% 2004, 100% avg. Apples 49% harvested, 39% 2004, 42% avg.; 10% poor, 20% fair, 70% good. Livestock 1% poor, 22% fair, 74% good, 3% excellent. Peanuts 8% harvested, 13% 2004, 14% avg.; 1% very poor, 6% poor, 22% fair, 66% good, 5% excellent. Sweet Potatoes 15% harvested, 14% 2004, 20% avg.; 45% fair, 55% good. Winter Grazings 15% planted, 19% 2004, 19% avg.

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 25% very short, 23% short, 48% adequate, 4% surplus. Subsoil 26% very short, 29% short, 44% adequate, 1% surplus. Feed supplies 3% very short, 9% short, 76% adequate, 12% surplus. Stock water supplies 17% very short, 23% short, 58% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat 44% seeded, 36% 2004, 30% avg. Sunflower 4% very poor, 12% poor, 27% fair, 47% good, 10% excellent; ray flowers dry 92%, 84% 2004, 92% avg.; bracts yellow 75%, 62% 2004, 72% avg.; 10% mature, 5% 2004, 23% avg.; 1% harvested, 0% 2004, 2% avg. Soybeans 32% mature, 10% 2004, 26% avg. Sorghum harvested-grain 3%, 3% 2004, 5% avg. Cattle condition 2% poor, 10% fair, 67% good, 21% excellent. Sheep condition 1% poor, 7% fair, 61% good, 31% excellent. Range, Pasture 8% very poor, 18% poor, 36% fair, 33% good, 5% excellent. Corn silage harvested 74%, 39% 2004, 67% avg. Sorghum silage 74% harvested, 46% 2004, 56% avg. Alfalfa hay 10% very poor, 17% poor, 27% fair, 41% good, 5% excellent. Alfalfa hay 3rd cutting harvested 80%, 78% 2004, 74% avg. Temperatures were above normal again last week, with many parts of the state receiving some much needed precipitation. Rains helped to improve soil moisture levels, however, storms moved through several areas bringing some reports of hail damage. Row crop harvest began for many, with other major farm activities including seeding winter wheat, silage harvest, cutting alfalfa, moving hay and grain, and caring for livestock.

**TENNESSEE:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 10% very short, 20% short, 61% adequate, 9% surplus. Subsoil 9% very short, 26% short, 61% adequate, 4% surplus. Burley Tobacco Harvested 78%, 75% 2004, 79% avg. Air-Cured Tobacco Harvested 85%, 94% 2004, 90% avg. Fire-cured Tobacco Harvested 78%, 84% 2004, 81% avg. Pastures 6% very poor, 18% poor, 42% fair, 32% good, 2% excellent. Tobacco growers took advantage of the last week's favorable weather to continue harvest. There were some reports of quality loss due to foliar diseases, wind damage. Pastures in many areas of East State are very dry and need rain soon. The dry soil conditions have also delayed fall seeding. Some cattle producers in these areas were feeding hay to compensate for the shortage. In addition to harvest activities, farmers were spreading lime and preparing fields for planting small grains.

**TEXAS:** Agricultural Summary: Weather conditions were somewhat unsettled during the week. A few showers occurred in southern regions

during early to midweek, were generally associated with moisture from the Gulf. A cool front entered the state midweek, brought severe weather to many portions of the Plains, North State, varied locations the Edwards Plateau, Central State. Hail, high winds caused some property, crop damage in varied locations. In other areas around the state conditions remained generally hot, dry. Harvest of summer crops continued across the state, however a few delays were reported from areas where heavy rains fell. Land preparation for fall planting continued to be a priority where possible. A few producers were waiting for soils to dry after the rains and other producers reported that soils were too dry, rain would be necessary before planting activities could continue. Planting of small grains remained one of the higher priorities across the state as many producers are hoping for some field grazing this fall. Range, pastures remained in fair shape in areas where earlier rains occurred, however many other areas were in poor shape, declining rapidly. Livestock water supplies continued to deteriorate in many dry areas, hauling water to livestock began for some producers in these locations. Supplemental feeding remained heavy in many locations, was becoming necessary in many other areas. Hay production was slow to non-existent depending on the area around the state and whether or not adequate rainfall has occurred. Small Grains: Land preparation, planting moved ahead in many areas, especially in areas where soil moisture was adequate. In other areas, producers were dry planting, waiting for rain. Irrigation was active in areas where possible. Emergence of previously planted wheat, oats was reported as good in areas where rainfall has occurred and good stands also seem to be common. Problems with insect populations were light to moderate at this time. Cotton: Good growth, development continued in many areas, especially across the Plains. Cooler temperatures, decreased day length was slowing maturity. Some fields remained relatively wet, root rot was a problem in some of these areas. Insect activity remained variable, but manageable. Some crop damage was reported as the result of passing storms during the week. In areas further south, harvest, preparations for harvest continued. Ginning, stalk destruction activities continued in areas where harvest was ongoing. Cotton condition 74% normal, compared with 82% 2004. Corn: Harvest moved ahead across the Plains, portions of North State. A few delays were reported as the result of heavy rainfall associated with a passing cool front. Sorghum: Growth, development remained good to fair on late planted sorghum, however maturity was slowing as the result of cool days with less sunlight. Harvest moved ahead in early planted fields in many areas of the Southern Plains, North Central State with only a few delays reported. Sorghum condition 70% normal, compared with 78% 2004. Peanuts: Growth, development continued to be mostly normal around the state. Disease pressure remained light, manageable by all reports. Harvest and preparations for harvest gained strength, moved into portions of the Plains during the week. Peanut condition 87% normal, compared with 91% 2004. Soybeans: Harvest continued in Northeast State, portions of the Upper Coast. Light to moderate rains caused some delays in portions of these areas. Soybeans continued to suffer from drought conditions in portions of East State. Some crop damage was reported in a few locations as the result of passing storms during midweek. Soybean condition 53% normal. Commercial Vegetables, Fruit, Pecans In the Rio Grande Valley, preparations for fall planting continued. Irrigation was active in a few locations, cabbage transplants were being set. Pre-watering continued in many locations. Seed bed preparations for onions, spinach, other green vegetables continued during the week. Planting of carrots, onions continued in several locations. In the San Antonio-Winter Garden, early planted cabbage made good progress, pre-watering continued in areas where other fall crops will be planted. Seed bed preparations began as planting will begin soon. In the High Plains, pumpkins made good progress, harvest of early planted pumpkins continued. Pecans: Insect populations continued to cause varying amounts of problems for producers in many areas, control measures were being applied as needed. Nut drop continued in areas where dry conditions were ongoing. Some damage was reported in a few areas as the result of high winds, hail that accompanied a passing cool front. Livestock, Range, Pasture Report: Pasture green up, improvement was ongoing in areas where rainfall has been adequate and steady. However, there are many areas where these conditions have been dry for some time. Many counties are suffering drought conditions of varying degree, both crops, livestock herds were suffering. Pastures conditions continued to decline prior to the winter months and producers were very concerned about available forage. Hay supplies were extremely short in most of these areas, the possibility of adequate growth before frost was not likely. Many producers continued to sell livestock as it was not profitable to continue buying hay. In areas where rains have been adequate, pasture growth was ongoing. Hay production remained variable across the state depending on moisture levels in the particular area. Armyworm infestations seemed to be more stable in many areas, however new populations have been found in some grain fields intended for grazing.



**UTAH:** Days suitable for field work 7. Subsoil 2% very short, 27% short, 70% adequate, 1% surplus. Irrigation Water Supplies 2% very short, 15% short, 81% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter Wheat, Planted For Harvest Next Year 50%, 54% 2004, 32% avg. Spring wheat 94% harvested, 96% 2004, 99% avg. Barley harvested (grain) 96%, 100% 2004, 100% avg. Oats harvested (grain) 84%, 91% 2004, 95% avg. Corn dough 94%, 99% 2004, 93% avg.; 57% dent, 73% 2004, 68% avg.; 20% mature, 31% 2004, 32% avg.; silage, harvested (silage) 16%, 41% 2004, 36% avg.; condition 0% very poor, 3% poor, 32% fair, 56% good, 9% excellent. Alfalfa Hay 3rd Cutting 88%, 93% 2004, 86% avg.; 4th Cutting 24%, 27% 2004, 27% avg. Alfalfa seed 51% harvested, 46% 2004, 42% avg. Onions 39% harvested, 65% 2004, 52% avg. Dry beans 45% harvested, 24% 2004, 39% avg. Cattle, calves moved From Summer Range 14%, 27% 2004, 35% avg. Cattle, calves condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 8% fair, 65% good, 27% excellent. Sheep, lambs moved From Summer Range 17%, 24% 2004, 30% avg. Sheep Condition 0% very poor, 0% poor, 7% fair, 71% good, 22% excellent. Stock water supplies 0% very short, 12% short, 88% adequate, 0% surplus. Apples 21% harvested, 48% 2004, 34% avg. Peaches 89% harvested, 93% 2004, 87% avg. Pears 91% harvested, 94% 2004, 81% avg. Cooler temperatures at night have resulted in frost damage and livestock illness in some counties. Activities Included: Alfalfa, oilseed, onions, and small grain harvesting, gathering, sorting, and relocating livestock to fall pastures, and fall seedings. There were statewide reports of silage corn needing more time to mature before harvest. Northern counties reported that the weather has been good, but very dry over the past three months. Additionally, very little winter wheat or fall barley has been planted yet in the northern counties. Some central counties reported some severe hail damage to corn fields, where the leaves were stripped leaving only the stocks and ears. Most eastern counties reported last week as a great week for harvesting crops with no real cold weather yet. Many farmers are preparing to harvest their third hay crop in the next few weeks. Livestock were doing well overall. Northern counties reported seeing some pneumonia in cattle due to warm days, cool nights. Some dairies and feed yards also reported an unusually early problem with starlings, causing some outbreaks of salmonella, resulting in high calf mortality for some dairymen. Sheep were being gathered, lambs sorted and moved to fall pastures. The bulk of the livestock should start being moved in the next month.

**VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 28% very short, 49% short, 23% adequate. Subsoil 21% very short, 47% short, 32% adequate. It was another dry week for the Commonwealth. The anticipated rain from Hurricane Ophelia was much less than expected. This made the fourth consecutive week that the state received less than average rainfall. The average temperature for the week was 74°, which was 6° above normal for this time of year. Some farmers began feeding their livestock hay due to the drought stricken pastures. The dry conditions have aided farmers with the corn harvest, with some farmers reporting slightly better than average corn yields. However, there are also reports of some counties seeking disaster declarations due to the drought like conditions. Single crop soybeans fared better than double crop beans; the double crop beans showed signs of stress caused by the heat, dryness. Activities Included: Scouting crops for insects, diseases, completing the vegetable harvest, and over seeding pastures.

**WASHINGTON:** Days suitable for fieldwork was 6.6. Topsoil 28% very short, 40% short, and 32% adequate. Subsoil 30% very short, 41% short, 29% adequate. Irrigation water supplies were 8% very short, 14% short, and 78% adequate. The highest temperature in the state was 84° in Hanford, Pasco. The lowest temperature in the state was 36° in Deer Park. Winter wheat 40% planted, 15% emerged. Spring wheat 100% harvested. Barley 100% harvested. Potatoes 63% harvested. Corn conditions were 1% poor, 13% fair, 69% good, 17% excellent. Corn harvested for silage 33% harvested. Corn harvested for grain 2% completed. Dry edible beans 57% harvested, conditions e 15% poor, 40% fair, 45% good. Alfalfa 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting completed 90%. Warm, dry conditions continued dominant weather pattern throughout the state. However, lack of moisture level delayed winter wheat seeding for some growers. Hail damage to crops were reported in central and southeast areas of the state. Hop harvest and potato digging continued. Harvesting of garbanzo beans wrapped up. Range, pasture feeds 11% very poor, 27% poor, 32% fair, 30% good. Water supplies for livestock were being depleted, producers hauled water to supplement the normal water facilities. Apple, grape harvests were underway with good quality being reported on both fruits. Pear, sweet corn harvests wound down. Cranberry, fresh market crops were damaged due to hail in the Grayland area.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Days suitable for field work 7.0. Topsoil 25% very short, 51% short, 24% adequate compared with 2004 1% very short, 2% short, 48% adequate, 49% surplus. Corn conditions 2% very poor, 10% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, 3% excellent; 93% dented, 76% in 2004, 71% 5-yr avg.; 38% mature, 29% 2004, 30% 5-yr avg.; 2% harvested, 3% 2004, 5-yr avg not available. Wheat 2% planted, 15% 2004, 19% 5-yr avg. Soybean conditions 1% very poor, 22% poor, 39% fair, 38% good; 64% dropping leaves, 54% 2004, 55% 5-yr avg.; 1% harvested, 1% 2004, 5-yr avg not available. Tobacco conditions 7% poor, 27% fair, 58% good, 8% excellent; 56% harvested, 80% 2004, 72% 5-yr avg. Hay 2% very poor, 10% poor, 41% fair, 46% good, 1% excellent; 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting complete 93%, 89% 2004, 88% 5-yr avg.; 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting complete 34%, 35% in 2004, 5-yr avg not available. Apples 8% very poor, 24% poor, 33% fair, 27% good, 8% excellent; 21% harvested, 34% 2004, 5-yr avg not available. Peaches 7% very poor, 29% poor, 21% fair, 36% good, 7% excellent; 86% harvested, 2004 & 5-yr avg not available. Cattle, calves 1% poor, 21% fair, 76% good, 2% excellent. Sheep, lambs 1% poor, 14% fair, 81% good, 4% excellent. Activities Included: Cutting tobacco, hauling water, cutting hay, harvesting apples, peaches and chopping corn for silage.

**WISCONSIN:** Days suitable for fieldwork 6.1. Soil 21% very short, 38% short, 39% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn, Soybean Harvest Starts. The trend of above average temperatures, rapidly maturing crops continued. These conditions allowed some farmers to begin harvesting corn, soybeans. Rainfall last week ranged from 0.01 in Madison to 3.15 inches in La Crosse. Average temperatures were 6 to 8° above normal. Low temperatures were in the high 40s, while highs rose to the low 90s. Corn conditions 6% very poor, 17% poor, 33% fair, 32% good, 12% excellent; 91% dent higher than 2004 42%, 67% 5-yr avg.; 46% mature, above 2004 4% 18% 5-yr avg.; 66% harvested for silage higher than 2004 12%, 29% 5 yr avg. A significant amount of corn silage was harvested last week as farmers tried to stay ahead of the rapidly drying crop. Although most areas have experienced a dry growing season, most reporters are seeing average corn silage yields. Corn for grain harvest has begun in central, southern areas. At this point, reports on yields have varied within counties. Several reporters stated concerns about lodging due to the dry conditions. Soybean conditions 5% very poor, 12% poor, 30% fair, 42% good, 11% excellent; 95% leaves turning color, ahead of 2004 52%, 71% 5-yr avg.; 76% dropping leaves, compared to 2004 24%, 35% 5-yr avg. Soybean harvest started during the week. Many reporters noticed that early maturing beans were very dry due to the warm temperatures. The dry summer has led to small seed size and lower yields on lighter soils. Hay 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting harvest complete 92%, slightly ahead of 2004 89%, 91% 5-yr avg.; 4<sup>th</sup> cutting complete 32%, compared to 2004 21%, 25% 5-yr average. Hay yields have been below average in most areas of the state. However, many growers have been pleased with hay quality. Fourth crop harvest has been progressing slowly. Some areas may not be harvested due to possibility of inadequate regrowth before winter. Pasture feeds 19% very poor, 22% poor, 34% fair, 22% good, 3% excellent. Apple, cranberry, and vegetable harvests continued during the week.

**WYOMING:** Days suitable for field work 6.8. Topsoil 20% very short, 46% short, 34% adequate. Subsoil 27% very short, 39% short, 34% adequate. Stock water supplies 19% very short, 28% short, 53% adequate. Barley 97% harvested, 98% 2004, 98% 5-year average. Oats 94% harvested, 88% 2004, 92% 5-year average. Winter wheat 85% planted, 67% 2004, 79% 5-year avg.; 46% emerged, 28% 2004, 43% 5-year average. Sugarbeets condition 15% fair, 85% good. Corn 83% dent stage, 47% 2004, 76% 5-yr avg.; 23% mature, 1% 2004, 43% 5-yr avg.; 52% cut for silage, 52% 2004, 63% 5-yr avg.; condition 5% poor, 13% fair, 69% good, 13% excellent. Dry beans 65% windrowed, 40% 2004, 66% 5-yr avg.; 39% combined, 16% 2004, 42% 5-year avg.; condition 16% fair, 84% good. Alfalfa 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting 98%, 96% 2004, 97% 5-yr avg.; 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting 30%, 21% 2004, 47% 5-yr avg. Cattle moved from summer ranges 19%, 22% 2004, 36% 5-year average. Sheep moved from summer ranges 24%, 36% 2004, 40% 5-year average. Range, pasture feeds 5% very poor, 17% poor, 31% fair, 43% good, 4% excellent. For the week ending Friday, September 17th, temperatures ranged from 6.6° below normal in Afton to 3.6° above normal in Cheyenne. The high temperature was 96 in Wheatland and the low was 21 in Big Piney. Precipitation was below normal except in some western areas. The most precipitation was reported in Rawlins had 0.58 inches, Rock Springs had 0.48 inches, and Big Piney had 0.37 inches.